

## Democratic Republic of Congo Lesson #1 Map Skills

<b>Date:</b>		<b>Subject:</b> DRC – Demographic-Map Skills <b>NCSCOS:</b> Competency Goal Objectives - 1.01,1.02, 2.01, 2.02, 2.03, 3.01, 4.01, 4.02, 5.03, 8.02, 11.02	<b>Warm – Up/Bell ringer:</b> List 5 ways people use salt and fresh water,
<b>Materials Needed</b>	<b>Time – Pacing</b>	<b>Link(s) to Prior Learning:</b> Basic map skills and knowledge of the African geography.	<b>Continuous Assessment - tools/strategies</b>
Outline Map of the DRC  Maps of the DRC  River Comparison Maps	45 minutes  <u>Warm-Up</u> 3 – 5 minutes  <u>Guided Practice</u> 20 – 25 minutes  <u>Independent Practice</u> 10-15 minutes  <u>Summary/Closure</u> 3 – 5 minutes  90 minutes (Block/Flexible Schedule)  You may wish to expand the times from above for each.	<b>Purpose/Objective of this lesson:</b> To understand the impact of the Congo River basin on the geography of the DRC.  <b>Teacher Input</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline Map of the DRC</li> <li>• Maps of the DRC</li> <li>• The Congo River Basin and Nile River Basin Comparison Maps</li> </ul> <b>Key Questions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What importance does the Congo River Basin play in the life of the Congolese?</li> <li>• Why would you build or place your cities/towns near sources of water?</li> <li>• How does the DRC’s river basin and geography compare with those in the US and African countries already covered during this school year.</li> </ul> <b>Strategies for Differentiation:</b> You may want to give those students that have problems transferring information quickly a copy of the DRC Maps for their own use.  <b>Class Activity:</b> <b>Guided Practice</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribute the outline map of the DRC and the maps of the DRC to your students.</li> <li>2. Instruct your students to draw the Congo River Basin and its tributaries onto their maps. (See note in Notes and Comments section.)</li> <li>3. Instruct them to place the cities and towns of the DRC onto their maps.</li> </ol>	Monitor your students as they are completing their maps and the River Comparison Maps.  Review the maps and their keys to ensure student understanding. Students may be unfamiliar with some of the land cover classes or their impact on human settlement.  Ask students to compare the Congo with a river they are familiar with, such as the Mississippi, Amazon, or Yangtze Rivers.  Lewis and Clark explored the Missouri River searching for a route to the Pacific. What

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		<p>4. On your board write “Why would the Congolese build most of their cities and towns on or near rivers in the Congo River Basin?” and ask your students to answer the question as you record their answers below the question.</p> <p>5. Explain the River Comparison Map activity.</p> <p><b>Independent Practice</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribute the River Comparison Maps to your students.</li> <li>2. Instruct them to complete the questions included with the maps.</li> </ol> <p><b>Summary/Closure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask your students to name the river nearest to your school and what impact it has had on the community in the past and in the present.</li> <li>• What sources for fresh water, transporting goods, and travel are used in our area to supplement or replace this river?</li> <li>• How do you think our lives would be different if we did not have the river?</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework:</b> Acrostic poem* using the words “Congo River Basin”</p>	<p>would explorers find if they followed the Congo and its tributaries to their source?</p>
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**Reflection:**

Differentiation	Student Engagement	Higher Order Thinking	Transition
1 2 3 <u>4</u> 5	1 2 3 <u>4</u> 5	1 2 3 <u>4</u> 5	1 2 3 <u>4</u> 5

Notes and Comments:

\*An acrostic poem is a poem that uses the letters in a word to begin each line of the poem. All lines of the poem relate to or describe the main topic word(s).

You may want to make class sets of the maps of the DRC and place them in plastic sheet covers or laminate them to conserve paper.

When instructing your students to draw the Congo River Basin onto their maps, you may need to tell them that it means to draw in the major rivers of the DRC as they make up the Congo River Basin.

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### Resources:

Please see the **On-line Resources for Africa Bridges and Barriers Lesson Plans** for extensive links to sites with content and current events on the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

For examples of how the DRC's wealth of natural resources has been a source of conflict see "On the Trail of DR Congo's cursed Gold" and "Gold Fuels Massive Human Rights Atrocities" at the following two web addresses: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/4604627.stm> and [www.africanfocus.org/docs05/drc0506.php](http://www.africanfocus.org/docs05/drc0506.php)

[http://www.irinnews.org/frontpage.asp?SelectRegion=Great\\_Lakes&SelectCountry=DRC](http://www.irinnews.org/frontpage.asp?SelectRegion=Great_Lakes&SelectCountry=DRC) has daily, weekly, and annual updates on the humanitarian, political, economic, cultural, educational, etc. conditions on the DRC.

### Resources for this lesson in particular:

Acrostic Poems. ReadWriteThink.org. July 3, 2006. <http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/acrostic/>

Democratic Republic of Congo- Congo River Map. WorldAtlas.com. July 4, 2006.

<http://worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/ciamaps/cd.htm>

Democratic Republic of Congo Political Map. HRW.com. July 3, 2006.

<http://go.hrw.com/atlas/norm.htm/congodem.htm>

Outline maps of the DRC. Geography.About.com. July 3, 2006.

<http://geography.about.com/library/blank/blxdrcongo.htm>

Watersheds of Africa: Congo River Basin Map. WaterandNature.org. July 4, 2006.

<http://www.waterandnature.org/eatlas/html/af3.html>

Watersheds of Africa: Nile River Basin Map. WaterandNature.org. July 4, 2006.

<http://www.waterandnature.org/eatlas/html/af15.html>

### Additional Resources:

BBC Key Facts DR Congo Geography

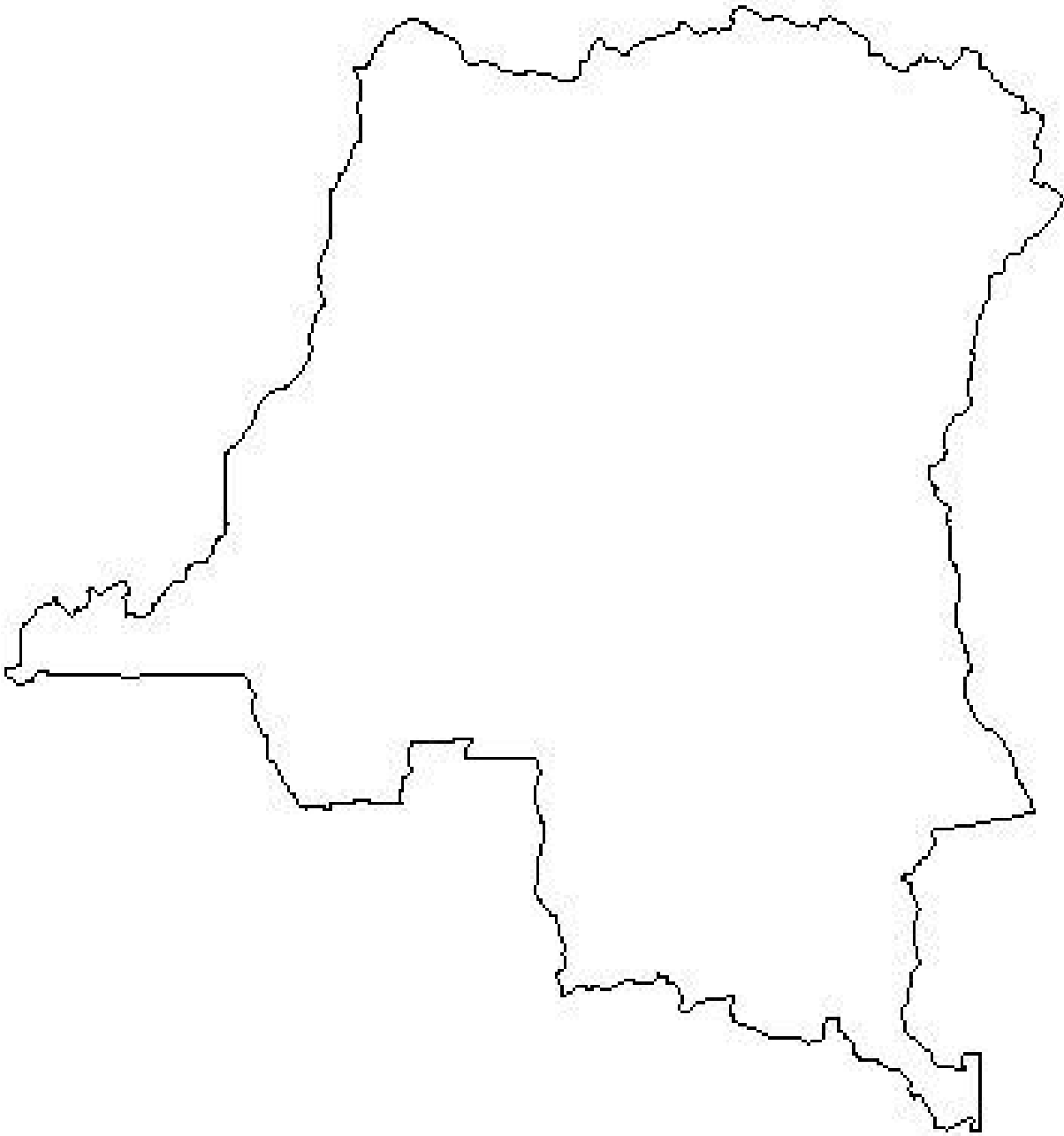
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/guides/456900/456977/html/nn2page1.stm>

Wikipedia Democratic Republic of the Congo Geography

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic\\_Republic\\_of\\_the\\_Congo/](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo/)

# Democratic Republic of Congo Lesson #1 Map Skills

Democratic Republic of Congo Outline Map



# Democratic Republic of Congo Lesson #1 Map Skills

Maps of the Democratic Republic of Congo  
Use these maps to complete your map.

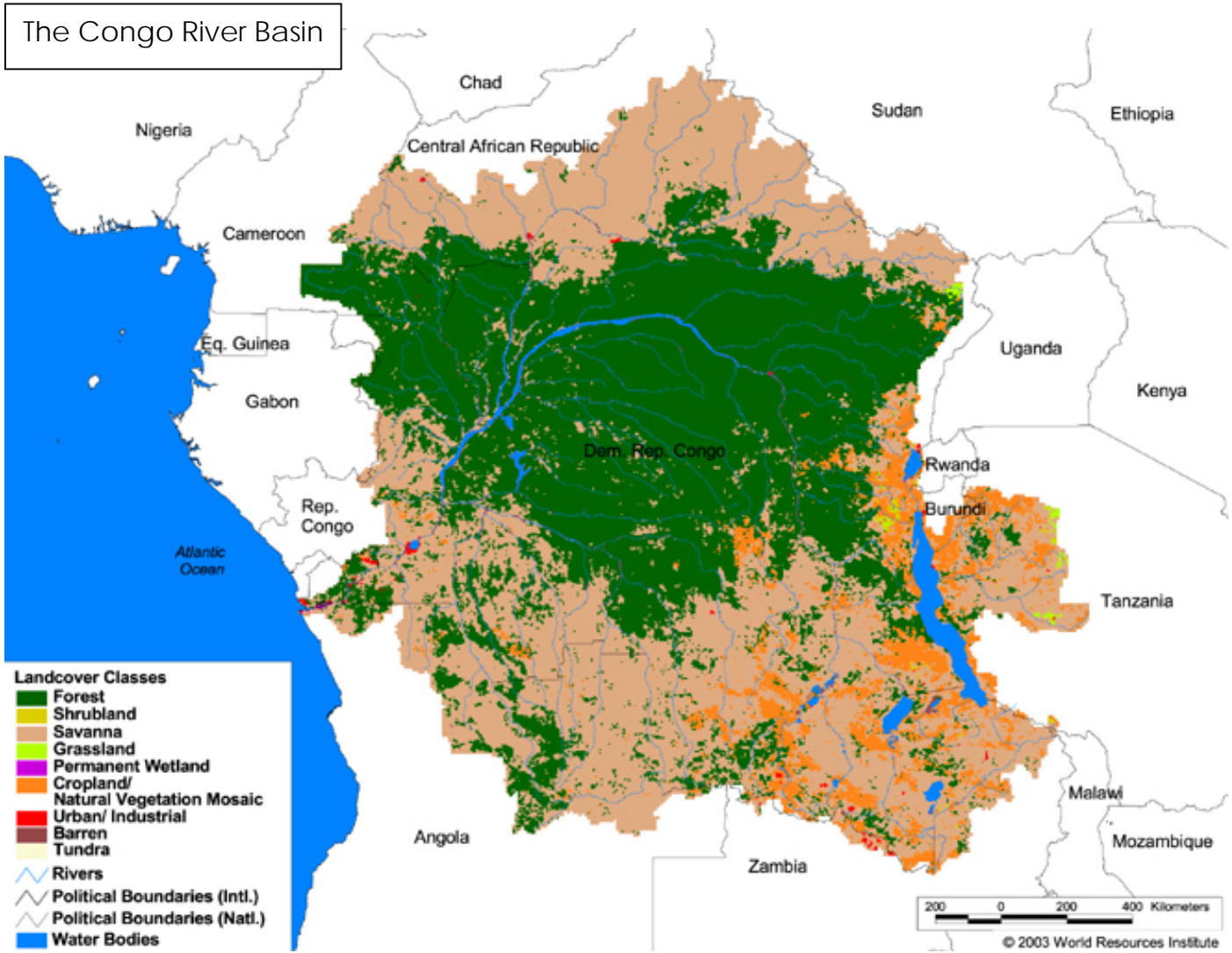
1. This map shows the Congo River Basin and the rivers it contains.



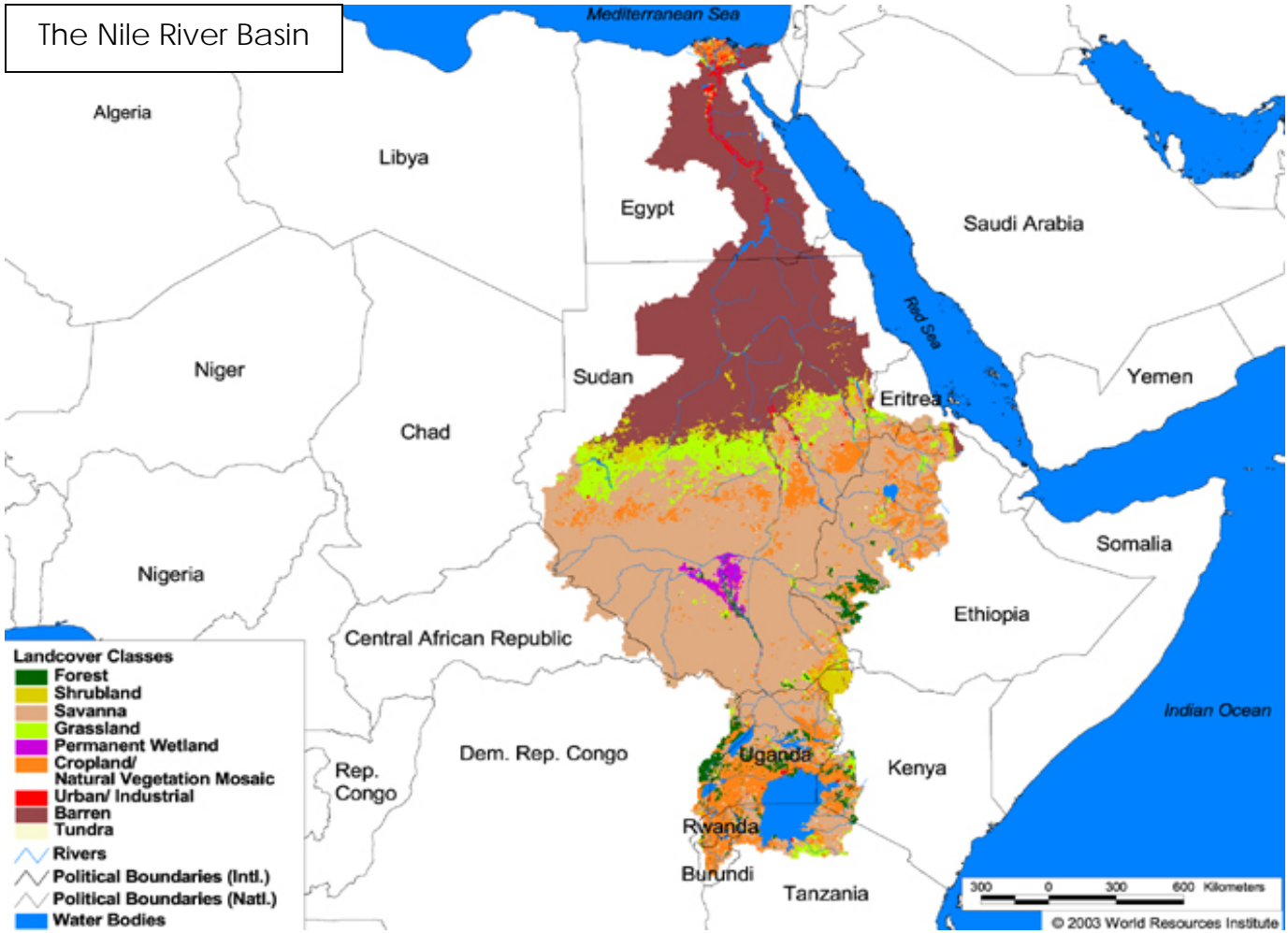
2. This map shows the Congo and Lualaba Rivers.



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River Map Comparisons

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the biggest difference you notice when comparing both maps?

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2. What is the largest area of land cover for the Congo River Basin?

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3. What is the largest area of land cover for the Nile River Basin?

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4. What is the smallest area of land cover for the Congo River Basin?

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5. What is the smallest area of land cover for the Nile River Basin?

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6. What conclusions can you make about the Congo River Basin?

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7. What conclusions can you make about the Nile River Basin?

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8. How do you think each river basin affects the lives of the people that live there?

Congo River Basin

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Nile River Basin

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